

Sunday August 17 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to an advertisement placed by the Canadian Union of Postal Workers concerning the Canada Post Corporation Strategic Review, in the Northern News Newspaper Edition of Friday August 15 2008.

I too say "NO" to Postal Deregulation! Keep the Canada Post Corporation as a crown agency as it always has been. Whenever the Postal Workers went on strike or held some sort of job action the federal government would always step in after so many days have passed without people getting their mail, regardless of how negotiations were coming along between the union and the government agency.


I think that other government services that have been sold off to private big business has been disastrous. For example, the electronic toll highway in the Greater Toronto Area otherwise known as the "407" was built with taxpayer's money and now a private company is running it and they are constantly changing their fees to fatten their pockets! Now our health care system is under attack. There are private clinics operating in this country where people have to pay to get access to MRI's, X-rays, etc. in faster time than going to a regular traditional hospital (public). Now there is talk of putting Canada's water supply into the hands of private enterprise. It is bad enough that the province of Ontario has gotten out of the business of sanding and plowing our highways during our brutal winters instead of the Ministry of Transportation performing these duties like they used to now that job has been given to numerous private companies throughout the province of Ontario and of course these companies will have different standards about the workers that they hire, the type of training that these employees will receive will be different amongst the different companies, and the type of equipment used to plow and sand our highways will of course differ greatly, and even the territories that they will operate in will cause disputes! Stop this madness now!

Leave Canda Post alone! Keep it in the hands of the federal government like it always has been. This way most Canadians only have to walk a short distance to their friendly neighborhood post office whether they live in a big city like Toronto or Vancouver or in more isolated areas such as Moose Factory or Pickle Lake, which are very remote Northern Ontario communities. Isolated communities such as Moose Factory or Pickle Lake would most likely lose their respective post offices if Canada Post was to be sold to a private business. My main concern is this: Does private business have the authority to step in to stop a postal worker's strike or job action if a private company or contractor were running Canada's postal system with unionized workers? What if a lockout occurred where the company shut out its workers because they couldn't come to an agreement over worker conditions in upcoming union negotiations? Who will step in to correct this situation? Crown Agencies can only be out on strike for a short amount of time before the government will put a stop to this.

I live in Kirkland Lake Ontario which is a small Northern Ontario community and at times I feel like a third class citizen in society because we don't have regular doctors, for the most part doctors work here on a short-term basis then when they get their work experience they move on to a more populated area. Now there is talk that my community will no longer have bus service in town, that any Kirkland Lake citizen who needs to get a bus ride will have to get a ride out onto Highway 11 in Kenogami to catch the bus! I have used bus service in my area because I do not have a driver's licence.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and I hope that Canada Post is left alone, the cost of living is high enough these days without having to pay more for postage every few months if private business had it their way, or god forbid, no formal post office to go to!

Sincerely,



Amanda Wheadon



Ontario